NOAA-HRC Partnership in Flash Flood Forecasting

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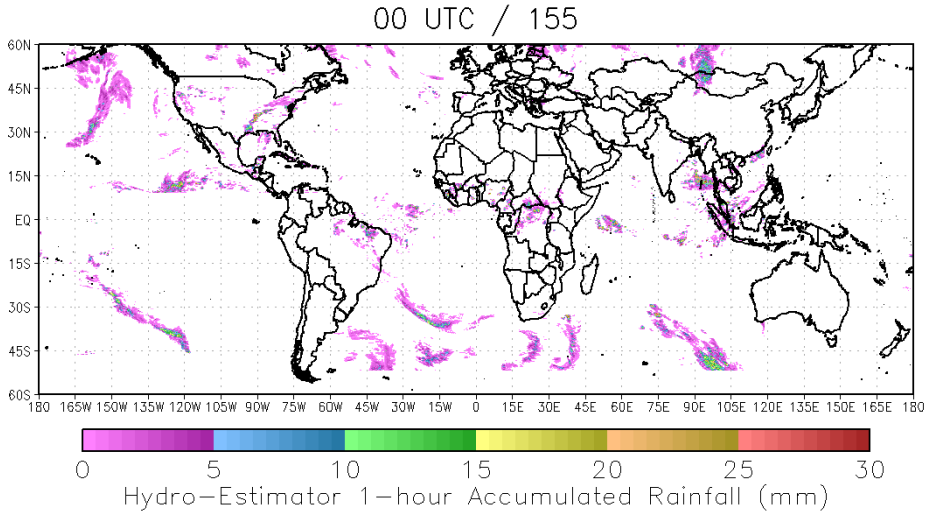
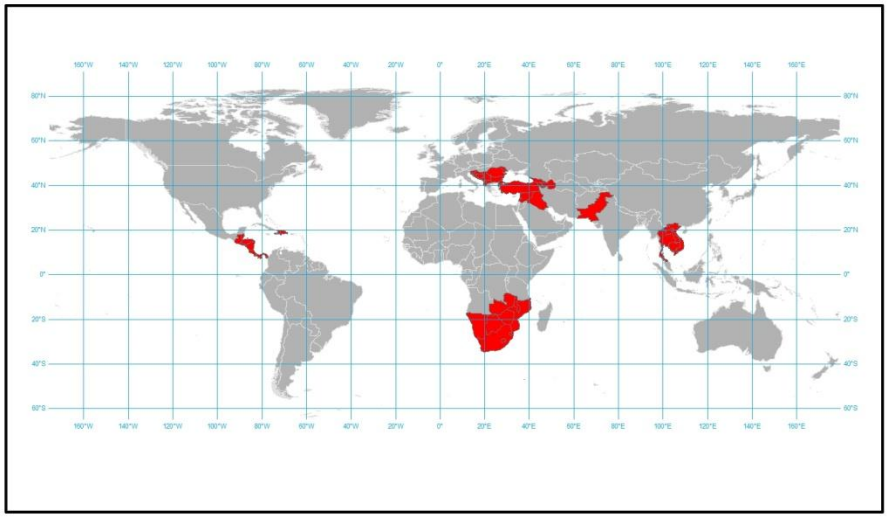
Introduction

- Floods and flash floods are one of the deadliest and most costly natural disasters worldwide.
- Many deaths could be prevented by adequate warning.
- Estimates of rainfall from satellites are being used to support flash flood forecasting in many parts of the world through the Global Flash Flood Guidance initiative.



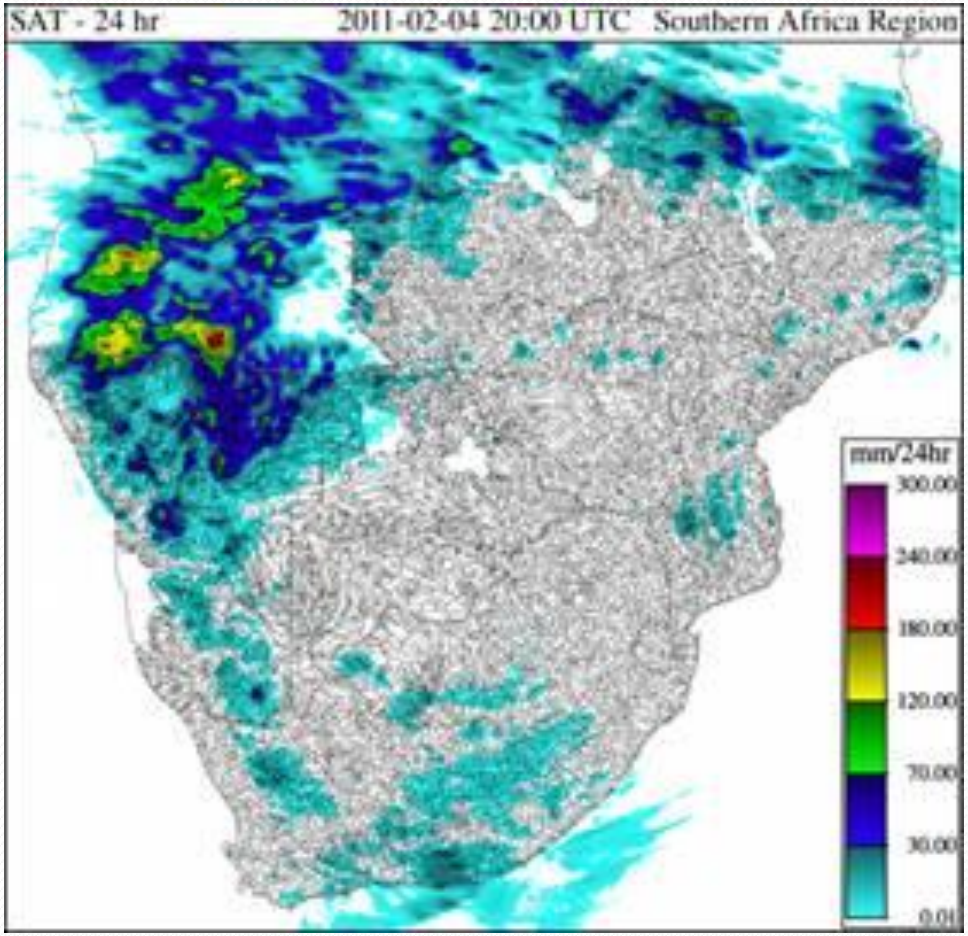
Flash Flood Guidance Partnership

- Collaboration between NOAA and the Hydrologic Research Center (HRC) to provide Flash Flood Guidance (FFG) systems for different parts of the world is supported by a MOU among NOAA, HRC, WMO, and USAID.
- NOAA provides satellite rainfall estimates for a HRC-developed forecasting tool used by in-country weather services to identify regions of flash flood risk.
- Each systems is run by the host country—a local solution to a local problem.
- Currently serving nearly 10% of the world's population.



A Success Story: Namibia

- February/March 2011—heaviest rainfall in many areas in >120 years of records.
- Satellite rainfall estimates used extensively in Namibia Hydrological Service (NHS) bulletins—very positive feedback from NHS after the event.



24-h rainfall from the Hydro-Estimator from 2 February 2011.

For More Information…

- Satellite Rainfall Estimation: Bob Kuligowski, NOAA (Bob.Kuligowski@noaa.gov)
- Flash Flood Guidance System information and implementation: Konstantine Georgakakos, HRC (KGeorgakakos@hrc-lab.org) and Bob Jubach, HRC (RJubach@hrc-lab.org)